

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm. Selectmen present were David Dwyer, Betsy Coes and James McIlroy. Others present were Chief Art Reed, Brian Knipstein, Joseph Daley, Mike Cole of E.D. Swett, Adam Chestnut and Andrew O'Sullivan of NHDOT, Residents of Railroad Ave. and Swamscott Street.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed payroll and accounts payable checks.

At 7:00pm the Selectmen opened the second Public Hearing on the Daley Conservation Easement. Joseph Daley was in attendance. He suggested to the Board that they use rebar instead of granite markers to stake out the easement area. He also informed the Board that the surveyor may put the easement line through the barn. David Dwyer suggested he keep the entire building out of the easement area.

A motion was made and seconded to close the Public Hearing at 7:09pm. All were in favor.

Brian Knipstein asked the Selectmen whether or not the Town was responsible for the maintenance of the School grounds. The Selectmen said the Town is only responsible for snow plowing.

The Selectmen took copies of the MS1 report to review.

Correspondence from Fran Lane was reviewed. The Gilmore closing took place on Monday, August 30, 2004.

The Selectmen directed Wendy to write to the Building Advisory Committee members and invite them to attend the Selectmen's meeting on September 14, 2004.

James McIlroy created Committee guidelines for the different Committees in town. Betsy and David will review the guidelines and make changes and suggestions to be discussed at next week's meeting.

A memo was read in regards to an invitation to a gathering for Paul McEachern.

A copy of a survey on a proposed conservation easement was reviewed.

Betsy informed the Board that she sent the letter they discussed last week to Lucy Bell Sellers.

Betsy is working on the survey from UNH.

Wendy was directed to contact Barbara and find out when she can launch the web site.

Town residents of the down town area were in to discuss the detour caused by the reconstruction of the Route 85 Bridge.

David Dwyer started the discussion by introducing himself and the Board, Wendy Chase, Mike Cole of E.D. Swett, Adam Chestnut and Andrew O'Sullivan of DOT.

Adam Chestnut informed the Board that Project manager Chris Waszczuk was unable to attend. Adam and Andrew O'Sullivan were there to answer any questions that they could. Any comments and suggestions on the general design of the Bridge and detour were welcomed and would be relayed to Chris Waszczuk.

Sam Taylor of Swamscott Street suggested that a painted crosswalk be placed on Swamscott Street connecting one side of Pleasant Street to the other.

Pam Abbott of Swamscott Street voiced her concerns on the speed of cars. She asked about temporary speed bumps. Adam explained that speed bumps could be dangerous to cyclists and motorcycles.

Chief Reed informed her that he sends each patrol shift down on Swamscott Street to clock speed and the average speed so far has been between 28 and 29 mph.

David Cail of Railroad Ave. questioned whether or not there were provisions set forth for pedestrians on Railroad Ave. in the original planning stages. There were not. Andrew O'Sullivan from DOT explained that at the public hearings the floor was open to any suggestions and concerns and no one brought it up.

Cheryl Murray voiced concerns of speed. She invited the Police to sit in her driveway anytime.

Sandy Perkins complimented the Police presence on Railroad Ave. Her main concern was that the entrance to Railroad Ave. off of Route 85 was designed to let cars go very fast onto Railroad Ave.

David asked Adam to look into lowering the speed limit through the construction zone.

Cheryl Murray complimented the State on the great job they did on her driveway.

Adam Chestnut explained that the State has an obligation to keep motorists safe. Certain construction can not be done to detours such as "s curves" that would endanger motorists.

Betsy voiced concerns that if the speed limit is lowered too much the traffic would be backed up to Route 108.

David Cail asked if they could put up temporary traffic lights up at the end of Railroad Ave. Adam will check with Chris Waszczuk.

Adam announced that they will be putting a stop sign back up at the top of Swamscott Street. It will be a 3 way stop.

Andrew Lopenzina of Railroad Ave. stated that the Police were doing a good job. He asked if they could put a sidewalk up on Railroad Ave. on the railroad side. Betsy said that was impossible because Guilford owns the land and will not let anything be constructed on their land.

Leigh Willett asked for any suggestions of where people could park if visiting. There is no parking on the side of the Street while the detour is in effect.

There was concern of the gates on the Railroad tracks. Sometimes they malfunction and stay down. They can legally stay down up to 7 minutes. Adam suggested that no one try and run through it would be too dangerous.

There was concern with plowing when the Winter comes. The State and the Town will both be participating in Road Maintenance.

It was asked when the project would be completed. Mike Cole explained that he could not start on the Bridge until the utilities are finished. He projects the date to be October 2005.

Mary McClusky of Pleasant Street questioned whether or not the State could provide mirrors so that people could see backing out of their driveways. Andrew said it was a possibility.

Joe Bernstein of Railroad Ave. voiced his concerns with child safety. He questioned if there could be lights placed at the ends of Railroad and Swamscott and have one lane traffic.

It was suggested changing the message board to read reduce speed limit and watch for children.

David Cail asked if the State could put up "no littering signs" along Railroad Ave. Travelers are throwing trash out car windows.

Adam Chestnut will speak with Chris Waszczuk and someone from Federal Highway tomorrow and make any approved changes immediately.

David Dwyer would like Adam to ask Chris Waszczuk to come into next weeks Selectmen's meeting and invited the Residents to come in also.

Adam reminded the residents to speak with their children about staying away from the streets.

David thanked everyone on behalf of the Board of Selectmen for coming to the meeting.

Betsy made a motion to approve the minutes of August 24, 2004, James seconded and all were in favor.

James informed the Board that the Seabrook drills are scheduled for October 20, 2004 and the graded drill November 17, 2004.

The Board will discuss the elections and go over the Committee guidelines at next weeks meeting.

Betsy made a motion to adjourn at 9:26pm, James seconded and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Wendy V. Chase